



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arizona Department of Public Safety Canine Unit Enforcement Activity Update

On Saturday, March 3, 2007, at approximately 1045 hours, an Arizona Department of Public Safety Officer conducted a traffic stop on a 1997 Dodge pick-up, for following too close on Interstate 40, near Milepost 304. During contact with the driver of the vehicle, the Officer observed indicators of illegal activity to include unusual nervousness and inconsistent travel plans. The Officer requested and received written consent to search the vehicle. The search revealed approximately 192 pounds of Marijuana, located inside a large speaker enclosure, on the back seat of the vehicle. In addition, \$650.00 in U.S. currency was also located within the vehicle. The Marijuana has an estimated street value of \$105,000. The vehicle, Marijuana and currency were seized. The driver was arrested and booked for Possession of Marijuana, Possession for Sale and Transportation for Sale.

On Sunday, March 4, 2007, at approximately 1020 hours, an Arizona Department of Public Safety Canine Handler conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Chevrolet pick-up for unsafe lane usage, following too close and a suspended vehicle registration. During contact with the driver, the Canine Handler observed indicators of illegal activity to include unusual nervousness and odd travel arrangements. A consent search of the vehicle was denied by the driver. The Canine Handler deployed his K-9 "Cruz" who alerted to the vehicle, which revealed approximately 100 pounds of Marijuana located under the bed cover. The Marijuana has an estimated street value of \$55,000. In addition, \$657.00 in U.S. Currency was also located in the vehicle. The vehicle, Marijuana and currency were seized. The driver was arrested and booked for Possession of Marijuana, Possession for Sale and Transportation for Sale.

On Saturday, March 10, 2007, at approximately 1105 hours, an Arizona Department of Public Safety Canine Handler conducted a traffic stop on a 2007 Ford SUV, unsafe lanes changes and following too close, on Interstate 40, near Milepost 262. During contact with the driver, the Canine Handler observed indicators of illegal activity to include extreme nervous behavior. A written consent search was obtained and in addition, the K-9 "Nino" was deployed, who alerted to the vehicle. The search revealed 22.5 pounds of hydroponically grown Marijuana was located within the vehicle. The Marijuana has an estimated street value of \$12,000. The vehicle and Marijuana were seized. The driver was arrested and booked for Possession of Marijuana, Possession for Sale and Transportation for Sale.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in Arizona, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 30 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.